



CANADA: On August 31, Saskatchewan's northeastern crop districts recorded their first autumn freeze, with temperatures falling to low as -3 degrees C. Immature canola, which is especially susceptible to damage from a hard freeze, may have incurred some localized damage. Recent weeks of warmer-than-normal weather helped to mitigate the potential impacts from the freeze, that occurred about a week ahead of schedule. Frosty conditions were also reported in Manitoba and Alberta's Peace River Valley, with Prairie-wide temperatures averaging 2 to 4 degrees C below normal for the week. Late-week rain (10-25 mm), heaviest in the northern growing areas, slowed Prairie fieldwork and may have resulted in localized lodging. Crop quality and problems stemming from the lateness of this season's haying remained a concern. Prior to the rain, harvest conditions were favorable, with some level of fieldwork was reported at all locations. In eastern Canada, warm, mostly dry weather (temperatures averaging 2-4 degrees C above normal, with precipitation totaling 10 mm or less) favored development of filling corn and soybeans and the continuation of seasonal fieldwork. Many eastern crop districts reportedly need a full month of frost-free weather, necessitating an on-time to late occurrence of the first autumn freeze.